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RELIEF FROM RAIN IS AT LAST HERE

SKIES CLEAR UP AND OLD SOL COMES OUT FROM BEHIND CLOUDS.

STORM'S BACKBONE FINALLY BROKEN

Damage to Crops and Roads Severe—Many Families are Forced to Move.

The Tombigbee rose 6 inches during the twelve-hour period ending at 6 o'clock last night, and at that hour was on a stand. The total rise was 32 feet and the total precipitation was 10.65 inches.

After having been for five days obscured by clouds which poured forth almost ceaseless showers the skies cleared up yesterday, and the storm which has brought so much damage not only in the territory immediately contiguous to Columbus but throughout Mississippi and Alabama and portions of Georgia seems to have at last spent its fury. The storm came up gradually and disappeared in the same manner. The wind and rain made their initial appearance last Wednesday night and old Boreas was the first to show signs of weariness, the wind having practically ceased by Monday while the rain continued at least twenty-four hours longer, the last shower having descended late Tuesday night.

The damage resulting from the storm in the several states through which it passed will run well into the millions, and while no buildings were blown down in this immediate section nor did any loss of life occur, the damage to agricultural crops and to roads and bridges will reach a considerable sum. The county during the past eighteen months expended nearly a half million dollars in improving her roads, and nearly every public highway in the county has been more or less damaged, everyone of them except the Military and Aberdeen roads having been rendered impassable by washouts.

The Tuscaloosa and Pickensville roads suffered more than other local highways. The Tuscaloosa road was constructed several years ago under the supervision of a government expert and was considered a model highway. It was not however, strong enough to withstand the onslaught made upon it by the maddened waters, and, after having been transformed into a muddy slush, washed away, leaving nothing but a series of holes and gulleys to mark its once majestic sweep. The Pickensville road, which was surfaced with novaculite, suffered practically the same fate, and sections of the Airline road were completely submerged, its condition having been so bad as to render it utterly impassable.

Columbus is situated between two streams, the Tombigbee river forming its western boundary, while the Luxapallila skirts its eastern corporate line. Both of these streams have been well out of their banks, and the people living within the confines of the inundated territory were forced to seek higher ground. Mr. C. R. Shackelford who operates a dairy not far from the Tombigbee, found it necessary to remove his cattle to the old Myrtle Terrace in the southeastern suburbs of the city, while many people living in Burn's bottom were forced to move to safer places.

All the railroads in this section have been heavy sufferers from the flood. Not a single train left Columbus for Birmingham over the Southern for nearly a week, the first east bound train to take its departure since July 4 having pulled out Monday afternoon. It was reported Monday at both the Southern Railway bridge at Waverly and the bridge on which trains over the Mobile and Ohio cross the Luxapallila a few miles southeast of the city were in danger, but these structures have so far withstood the onslaught of the waters, and are now believed to be safe.

John Alexander, a negro amnicol-ist, had a narrow escape Tuesday morning, when a small boat in which he was seated capsized near the county bridge, which spans the Tombigbee river at the foot of Main street. He clung to the boat, however, and succeeded in reaching a clump of trees, from which place he was later taken by rescuers to a place of safety.

NO SUCCESSOR TO MULLINS SELECTED

MEMBERS OF COMPANY WANT LIEUT. LAWLEY FOR CAPTAIN.

APPOINTMENT IS UP TO GOV. BILBO

It is Said That the Name of Lieut. Rush, of Biloxi, is Being Considered.

Up to yesterday no action had been taken in the matter of appointing a commander for the Columbus Riflemen to fill the place made vacant by the lamentable death of Capt. Mullins, which occurred at Jackson on July 5, and members of the company are very anxious to have the appointment go to Lieut. John Lawley. Under military regulations the right of filling the vacancy is delegated to Gov. Bilbo, and it is said that he is being urged to name Lieutenant Rush, of Vicksburg, for the place. Members of the company, however, prefer to be under the command of a Columbus man, and have telephoned a request that local citizens get up a petition requesting Governor Bilbo to appoint Lieutenant Lawley, and send it to Jackson at the earliest possible moment.

The following special from Jackson gives some interesting news regarding affairs at Camp Swep Taylor: "But little more than four weeks ago officers of the organized militia in Mississippi were going through the preliminaries for making ready to hold the annual state encampment. This event had been anticipated with much interest, and the Young Men's Business Club, which was so largely responsible for bringing the encampment to Jackson, had begun the first preparatory work for getting the grounds at Livingston Park in readiness. The encampment was to have opened for 15 days, on July 10, and the usual round of activities were being planned.

"On the day originally set for opening the encampment there was a far different aspect noticeable, with a well developed military camp, under the auspices of the United States, and in charge of officers of the army, and each man in camp under oath to serve the state as well as the nation, and not only within the borders of their own country but abroad, if need be. Save for the fact that some of the equipment was lacking, and a few necessary formalities still awaiting attention, within the four weeks which have intervened, the state national guard has been whipped into shape as a body, although a majority of its members and enlisted men are raw and undisciplined.

"Just what will follow the marching of the First Mississippi Regiment to the region of the Rio Grande is not stated definitely, though the impression prevails in some quarters that Camp Taylor will be maintained indefinitely where other units will be mobilized and

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STOKES AND WEATHERLY ATTEND HAY GROWERS' MEET

WILL MAKE EFFORT TO HAVE GRADES ON JOHNSON GRASS REVISED.

Hon. Walter E. Stokes, of Macon, president of the Mississippi Hay Growers' Association, and Mr. J. G. Weatherly, secretary-manager of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, left recently for Cedar Point, Ohio, where they go to attend the annual meeting of the National Hay Growers' Association.

The purpose of these gentlemen in attending the meeting is to secure a more satisfactory standardization for grading Johnson grass and other legumes grown in this section. Grades for these legumes were established when the association met at Niagara Falls last summer, but they have not proven satisfactory, and an effort will be made to have them changed so as to meet the desired requirements.

Mr. John Blackburn, who resides in Northwest Columbus, was carried to the Columbus Hospital yesterday suffering from typhoid fever.

MAIL ARRIVES FROM THE STATES



Photo by American Press Association. The United States soldiers in Mexico anxiously await the "next mail," which sometimes arrives by aeroplane. When it does some letters from home and newspapers with the "war news" receive undivided attention.

HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST GATHERED HERE AND THERE

GIST OF NEWS FROM OVER THE COUNTRY GIVEN IN A BRIEF FORM.

President Wilson Tuesday signed the good roads bill. Authorities are to spend \$85,000,000 for good roads in five years given by the Federal government on condition that the states expend amounts similar to those appropriated by them.

Nearly 40,000 women in England have already been made widows by the war. When the conflict started and government officials were making estimates of the number of widows in all probability would be created by the struggle, one of the highest estimates was 30,000. When Lord Kitchener heard of it he told those that were responsible for making provision for the war widows that the estimate was too low and they should make provision for at least 50,000. As a result of the recent naval battle 1,500 widows were added to the list of women receiving pensions.

The heads of the Public Health Service at Washington have decided to ask Congress for an appropriation for one hundred thousand dollars, with permission to draft into their service physicians from civil life, with which to blot out the epidemic of infantile paralysis.

According to Uncle Sam's latest figures on the subject, Mississippi has available for military duty 354,133 citizens. This means the total number of males between 18 and 45 years of age. All persons, however, are not available because of physical disqualifications. These figures include negroes and whites.

Official dispatches received in Latin-American diplomatic quarters at Washington say a secret agreement has been made between Peru and Venezuela with the object of taking vast tracts of lands, rightful possession of which they dispute with Colombia and Ecuador. Grave fears for the peace of the nations involved were expressed.

In South America there is a plant, a species of mimosa, which resorts to death feigning, evidently for the purpose of preventing grass eating animals from eating it. In its natural state this plant has a vivid green hue, but directly it is touched by a human finger or by any living animal it collapses into a tangle of apparently dead and withered stems.

Deutschland Given O. K.

Baltimore, Md., July 12.—Final decision by the state department that the German submarine Deutschland is a merchant ship, entitled to all privileges accorded under international law to a belligerent owned freighter, was forecasted tonight by receipt of preliminary reports on an inspection of the underwater liner at Baltimore by naval officers and treasury officials.

Collector Ryan, of Baltimore, telegraphed the treasury department that after a thorough examination of the boat by himself and Captain C. F. Hughes, appointed by the navy department to assist, he adhered to his previous opinion that the vessel is an unarmed merchantman, incapable for conversion for warlike purposes "without extensive structural changes."

The state department was advised of this and a detailed report mailed by Collector Ryan and Captain Hughes will be submitted tomorrow. Department officials tonight believed that a prima facie case tending to prove the Deutschland is a peaceful and unarmed vessel has been established.

ABERDEEN MEN TAKEN TO TUPELO FOR SAFE KEEPING

GIVEN HEARING AND RETURNED TO JAIL WITHOUT BOND BY MAYOR.

Aberdeen, Miss., July 12.—Dr. C. F. Lee, Houston Broomfield and Clyde Ingram, charged with being responsible for the death of Miss Mary Miller, whose death is alleged to have been due from a criminal operation was taken to Tupelo on Tuesday afternoon for safe keeping, following the decision of the mayor, before whom they had a preliminary hearing, that they be held to await grand jury action without bail.

It was stated this afternoon that habeas corpus proceedings would be instituted next week before Circuit Judge McIntyre in an effort to have the prisoners granted bail. Officers thought it best to send the prisoners to Tupelo, as feeling is at rather high tension here against the men.

MISS LIZZIE WHITFIELD DIES AFTER LONG ILLNESS

WELL KNOWN MAIDEN LADY PASSES AWAY AT HOME OF BROTHER-IN-LAW.

After an illness which had lasted many weeks, Miss Lizzie Whitfield died at the home of her brother-in-law, Mr. C. H. Ayres, No. 1024 North Third avenue, about five o'clock Tuesday afternoon.

Miss Whitfield, who was 51 years of age, was a noble Christian woman and was loved and admired by all who knew her. She is survived by a sister, Mrs. C. H. Ayres, and other further removed relatives, who have the sympathy of countless friends in the profound sorrow which her death entails.

The funeral took place at the Ayres home on North Third avenue at four o'clock yesterday afternoon, having been conducted by Rev. W. S. Slack, rector of St. Paul's Episcopal church. Messrs. W. S. Lindamood, E. E. Richards, T. W. Harris, John Beard, E. R. Hopkins and C. F. Sherrod officiated as pall bearers, and the floral offerings, which were both numerous and beautiful, were in charge of a committee consisting of Messdames W. S. Lindamood, W. B. Harrington, L. A. Vaughan, A. E. Herring, Sr., Misses Annie Lide, Emma Halbert and Mary Garth.

IMPORTANT ALLIED ADVANCES CLAIMED IN OFFICIAL REPORT

CROWN PRINCE MAKES GAIN IN HIS FIGHT FOR FORTRESS OF VERDUN.

London, July 12.—The British gains in the battle of the Somme after ten days of continuous fighting, cover a front of nearly eight miles and include the entire German first system of defense, according to the official report forwarded by General Haig, the British commander in chief on the French front. This advance includes a number of small towns or villages and positions which are considered of great strategic importance.

At the same time the French army under Gen. Foch has moved up in

GIRL'S BODY AND DEATH NOTE ARE FOUND IN BED

PELAHATCHIE HAS MYSTERY WHICH IS SIMILAR TO ORPET CASE.

Pelahatchie, Miss., July 11.—A tragedy that in several respects resembles the Will Orpet and Marion Lambert case has developed here. Miss Annie Atkinson, an attractive 17-year-old girl, was found dead in bed Sunday morning, and it was believed that she had committed suicide.

Since her death the authorities have learned that she received a letter several hours before, containing three poison tablets. The letter was unsigned and read as follows: "Darling—You will find enclosed some medicine that will ease your pain."

The letter had been posted on an A. and V. train of the Jackson division, and postal authorities have been asked to help trace the sender. Miss Atkinson had taken only one of the tablets, the note and remaining tablets were found under her pillow.

Pauline Frederick at Princess Today.

The "Paramount" attraction at the Princess today, Thursday July 13th, is the noted star of the stage and screen, Pauline Frederick, in Philip Oppenheim's famous story, "The World's Great Snare."

A magnificently staged production, and the stars need no mention. The admission is 5c and 15c.

Mr. Chas. Hays, manager of the Columbus Railway, Light and Power Co., is spending several days in Florence, Ala., on business.

Mr. E. B. Myrick, of Togo, is spending several days in the city with relatives.

The southern section of the Somme until it now holds the dominating hills around Peronne, a town which has been strongly fortified by the Germans, and the possession of which they are likely to contest with the utmost determination.

The British have retaken Contalmaison and are again in control of nearly the entire front of Trones and the Mametz wood. There has been desperate fighting in both of these sectors for several days past.

The French along the Somme carried out some minor detached operations which allowed them to straighten out their lines, and apparently the French are waiting for the British to straighten out their line before making the attempt to drive the Germans out of Peronne.

In this great battle, about 22,000 prisoners have been taken by the Franco-British forces, of whom the British announce they have captured 7,500.

In the Verdun sector, the Germans, unmoved by the attacks north and south of the Somme, have succeeded in gaining a foothold in the Damloup battery, which has been the bone of contention for days past, and in the French line in the Fumin wood on the right bank of the Meuse. At other points the Germans are carrying out a strong offensive.

On the Russian front, the Stokod sector is the central point of the Russian advance. The Germans have brought up strong reinforcements to oppose the Russians, who are now within twenty miles of Kovel. The defenses of this town are believed to be powerful, although there are now no natural barriers to Gen. Brusiloff's army and its objective. Fighting along the line is of a furious nature, as it was when the Russians were crossing the river at various points.

GARRANZA FORCES AT WAR WITH VILLA

FORCES OF FIRST CHIEF AT ROSARIO AND PARRAL ARE ATTACKED.

VILLA PREPARED FOR BIG BATTLE

Bandits Retreat to Point Nueve, Parral, Where Stand is Expected to Be Made.

Chihuahua City, July 12.—Two Villa bands attacked Carranza garrisons today at Rosario and Parral, but in both cases were beaten off with losses, according to official reports of General Trevino.

From Rosario the bandits were driven southward toward the Durango line by government troops under Gens. Gaitio and Hernandez.

Other reports to General Trevino indicate that a scouting patrol from Parral had encountered one of the small bands of outlaws who scattered after the attack on Jimenez in the vicinity of El Valle and had driven them into the hills but no details were given.

The report sent by Gen. Garcia, commander at Parral, said the bandits suffered heavy losses, and retreated to Sombrenillo, a few miles southeast of Parral. It adds that if they will make a stand there the deciding battle of the Villa campaign will be fought late today or tomorrow, as the de facto government's cavalry under Gens. Arrieta and Ramos, is almost in striking distance.

Gen. Garcia gave no details of the fighting, which he described as "very savage." He said, however, it is evident that the bandits' intention was to drive off the Parral garrison so the town could be looted and more ammunition obtained.

The number of troops engaged is not stated. The Parral garrison has been previously estimated at about 400 men.

Gen. Trevino said he had not received details of either of the clashes, but all the reports indicate they were skirmishes more or less minor in nature. He said that every effort to force the Villistas to battle had failed.

No doubt remains in the minds of military authorities here that Villa is directing the campaign along the Durango-Chihuahua border. Reports reaching Gen. Trevino from a number of escaped prisoners have described the bandit chieftain as riding in a coach, his crutches at his side, with two of his favorite chargers being led behind. It is asserted that every effort of the de facto government would be launched in an attempt to effect his capture.

It was announced that government troops have practically completed an enveloping movement, by means of which it is hoped to put an end to the bandit campaign. The Villistas are now enclosed, Gen. Trevino said, in a definite area, pivoting about Los Uieyes and Torreón de Canas. Co-operation between

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LOCAL COMPANY PLACES ORDER FOR THREE NEW TROLLEY CARS

WILL ARRIVE IN SEPTEMBER AND BE PLACED IN IMMEDIATE USE.

Mr. R. B. Claggett, general manager of the Columbus Railway, Light and Power Company, informs the Commercial that the order for the three new trolley cars which the company some time since announced would be purchased, has been placed with a concern in Buffalo, N. Y., and the cars are expected to arrive about the middle of September.

The cars are of the pay-as-you-enter style. Cars of this character have for some time been in use in many of the larger cities throughout the country and have proven in every way satisfactory, both to the transportation companies using them and to their patrons. The cars, which are to be painted an olive green, are 28 feet in length, and are modern in every respect.

Other improvements are contemplated by the company, notable among them being the installation of a new dynamo at the electric light plant.

STAPLETON TO PILOT LOCAL TEAM

LOWRY FUCHI RESIGNS ON ACCOUNT OF ILL HEALTH.

SEVERAL CHANGES IN LOCAL LINE-UP

Teams Played Yesterday After Week's Idleness—Aberdeen victorious.

On account of ill health, Lowry Fuch, who has been in charge of the local baseball team ever since the Northeast Mississippi League was organized a little more than a month ago, has tendered his resignation, and has been succeeded by Catcher "Buck" Stapleton, who has been named as the official pilot by President Kuykendall and who will henceforth direct the organization.

Fuch has been in a bad shape physically for some time past, and left last Monday night for his home in New Orleans, where he will enter a hospital for treatment.

After having been kept in idleness by the rain for a solid week the Northeast Mississippi League resumed activities Wednesday afternoon, and the game which was played here, between teams representing Aberdeen and Columbus resulted in a victory for the visitors by a score of 8 to 1.

Stringer, a new man, pitched for Columbus and yielded thirteen hits, while Aberdeen worked two twirlers, Neely and Kinney.

Three new players, Shaw, Montague and Brockman, have been secured. Shaw will play first base, relieving Tart, who has been released; Montague will play short stop, replacing Newton, who will be shifted to second base, and Brockman will play third base, replacing Lusk, who will probably take a lay-off. The new players did not appear in Wednesday's game, but will be in the line-up today, when the Columbians play at West Point. Manager Stapleton claims that when the new players get into action he will have an unusually strong team.

Following is the score of Wednesday's game:

R. H. E.
Columbus 000 000 100—1 7 5
Aberdeen 220 003 010—8 13 1
Batteries: Stringer and Stapleton; Neely, Kinney and Leftwich. Umpire, Stringer; time, 2 hours.

Capt. Boyd Buried With Honors. Washington, July 12.—With full military honors the body of Captain C. T. Boyd, Tenth cavalry, who was killed at the head of his command in the Carrizal fight, was buried today in the Arlington National Cemetery. Secretary Baker, Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff, and officials of the war department attended the funeral.

President Wilson sent a wreath from the White House green houses. Congress was represented by a committee of members who are union and Confederate veterans. None of the bodies of the negro troopers killed in the engagement was buried here today.

The war department was advised late today that the bodies of six unidentified negro troopers of the 10th cavalry, killed at Carrizal, have been sent from El Paso and would arrive here Thursday. They will be buried at Arlington.

Resigns Presidency.

In order that he may devote his entire time and attention to the discharge of his duties as general manager of the Columbus Railway, Light and Power Company, Mr. R. B. Claggett has tendered his resignation as president of the Chamber of Commerce at Greenville, where he formerly lived, and will make this city his permanent home. Mr. Claggett represents a company of Memphis capitalists which recently purchased the local trolley system, electric light and gas plants, and under his capable management the properties, which were badly run down, are being rapidly improved.

Executive Committee to Meet.

The Democratic Executive Committee of Lowndes county has been called to meet at the court house in this city Tuesday, July 18, at 11 o'clock a. m., the call having been issued by Hon. E. K. Sherman, chairman of the committee. The object of the meeting is to make arrangements for the forthcoming Democratic primary on August 15, at which a congressman and a supreme court justice are to be nominated.